

From: Troy L Jacobs - Raw Infinity
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Greetings,

A lot of people have been swayed by the headlines on how much of a monopoly Microsoft has, I just want to set a few things straight.

I have been programming computers for almost 20 years and have seen a lot of changes in technology in that time.

Microsoft has far surpassed others when it has come to opening the door for programmers.

They have piloted such technologies as Active X and the Component Object Model (COM).

We programmers have never had as much freedom as we do now.

Instead of cutting us out of the picture or making us no more than vainglorious macro writers, Microsoft has given us the best (by far) programming environment in the world. They pioneered Rapid Application Development (RAD) and created an awesome opportunity by incorporating Visual Basic for Applications into all of the Office programs.

A lot of people may not speak highly of what they consider to be a monopoly, but others and myself are very grateful that Microsoft has given us this freedom.

Microsoft must spend millions of dollars just developing the technologies that I am speaking of.

They could have just as easily made all of the Office programs "closed". Instead they exposed all of the objects in them so that we could program them ourselves.

The battle between Internet Explorer and Netscape is now ludicrous. With the advent of COM and Distributed COM (DCOM) the horizon is now clear.

As I programmer I had to research for quite some time to decide what technologies that I would invest in and learn. I studied all of the available ones and found that Microsoft has, bar far, the best suite of languages and programming environments.

I am looking forward to what the future holds. We should all be grateful.
Regards,

Troy L Jacobs

Raw Infinity <<http://www.geocities.com/rawinfinity>>

Phone: 503.752.2849

rawinfinity@yahoo.com <<mailto:rawinfinity@yahoo.com>>

www.geocities.com/rawinfinity <<http://www.geocities.com/rawinfinity>>

